

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 IO-14 HA-05 /101 W

-----063629 202003Z /45

R 201326Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3336

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

AMEMBASSY BISSAU

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS DAKAR 2093

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, SG, GV, IV

SUBJECT: SENGHOR EXPRESSES CONFIDENCE IN SEKOU TOURE'S EIN-
CERITY

REF: DAKAR 2072 (NOTAL)

1. PRESIDENT SENGHOR RETURNED DAKAR MARCH 19 FROM
"RECONCILIATION SUMMIT" IN MONROVIA WHICH BROUGHT SENEGALESE
LEADER AND HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY TOGETHER WITH GUINEAN PRESIDENT
SEKOU TOURE. IN ARRIVAL REMARKS TO PRESS, SENGHOR SPOKE
POSITIVELY OF SUMMIT, SAYING IT HAD BEEN "SERIOUSLY
PREPARED" BY PRESIDENTS TOLBERT, EYADEMA AND JAWARA.
SENGHOR SUMMARIZED THREE MAIN SUMMIT DECISIONS AS FOLLOWS:
"FIRST, FORGET THE PAST; SECOND, RE-ESTABLISH--ON CERTAIN
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CONDITIONS, NATURALLY--DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS...; AND THIRD,
FACILITATE FREE CIRCULATION OF GOODS AND PERSONS IN
THE FRAMEWORK OF ECOWAS."

2. SENGHOR RECALLED THAT "MAJOR OBSTACLE TO
RECONCILIATION" HAD BEEN SEKOU TOURE'S REPEATED REQUEST
FOR RETURN OF REFUGEES, WHICH WOULD BE CONTRARY TO

TERMS OF BILATERAL JUDICIAL CONVENTION AND OAU AND UN REFUGEE STATUTES. HOWEVER, GUINEAN PRESIDENT HAD GIVEN ASSURANCES THAT HE WOULD DROP THIS DEMAND AND, SENGHOR SAID, "AFTER THAT, EVERYTHING BECAME EASY."

3. SENGHOR NOTED THAT SENEGAL RIVER AND GAMBIA RIVER DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS (OMVS AND OMVG, RESPECTIVELY) HAD NOT BEEN DISCUSSED, BUT, IF QUESTION ARISE, "WE ARE GOING TO STUDY THE REQUESTS IN AN OPEN SPIRIT." HE POINTED OUT THAT GUINEAN COOPERATION WAS NOT ESSENTIAL TO OMVS, BUT "WE CANNOT DO SERIOUS WORK IN THE OMVG SITHOUT THE REPUBLIC OF GUINEA." THIS, HE SAID, WAS AN "IMPORTANT PROBLEM" WHICH HAS BEEN STUDIED WITH GAMBIA PRESIDENT HAWARA AND "WE ARE OPEN TO ANY REQUEST BY SEKOU TOURE."

4. SENGHOR INSISTED THAT HE HAD CONFIDENCE IN SINCERITY OF SEKOU TOURE. HE SAID, "I DO NOT (RPT NOT) HAVE CONTEMPT FOR SEKOU TOURE, WHO HAS QUALITIES OF INTELLIGENCE, DYNAMISM AND FAITH IN AFRICA.ACCORDING TO WHAT I KNOW OF THE NEGRO-AFRICAN PSYCHOLOGY," SEKOU TOURE AND HIS ENTOURAGE ARE SINCERE.

5. RADIO SENEGAL BROADCAST SENGHOR'S REMARKS TOGETHER WITH READING OF FINAL SUMMIT COMMUNIQUE BY TOGOLESE FOREIGN MINISTER.

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